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REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 12 are in independent form. Claims 5-7 and 19-22 were objected to but indicated as allowable if amended to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 5 and 19 were amended to independent form and include the intervening claims.

For all of the Examiner's rejections, Akiyama is the base reference and Delajoud is the secondary reference. All of the Applicant's claims require a pressure mass flow controller. Akiyama generally discloses a mass flow controller, and Delajoud discloses a pressure mass flow controller. The question is would one of ordinary skill use a pressure mass flow controller in the system of Akiyama. As noted in paragraph 12 of Applicant's Specification, the norm in the industry is using a thermal mass flow controller. The Examiner's stated motivation to modify Akiyama by providing using a pressure transducer specifically because it is "accurate, low cost, easily cleaned, and has an easily altered gas flow range, and is stable over time" is insufficient.

In industry relevant to Delajoud, there is no convenient, accurate way of in situ to calibrating mass flow controllers for thermal mass flow controller applications. This is not the case in the exhaust gas sampling industry, which is represented by Akiyama. A thermal mass flow controller in the exhaust gas sampling industry is calibrated in situ to by flowing a calibration gas of having known thermal properties, such as nitrogen, through the thermal mass flow controller. Other calibration gases may also be used. Since the composition of the nitrogen gas is known, the thermal mass flow controller can be accurately calibrated. This is a common practice in the exhaust gas sampling industry for many applications. The stated motivation does not apply to the Akiyama

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system, so one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify it.

The quote provided by the Examiner from MPEP 2144 does not strengthen the Examiner's argument. There is no benefit here to combine the references based upon the teachings of Akiyama and Delajoud as a whole. Based upon the teachings of Delajoud, there would be no expected beneficial result because the system of Akiyama does not require the removal of the mass flow controller for calibration, which is the whole point of Delajoud's use of a pressure mass flow controller. The benefits quoted from Delajoud by the Examiner are only applicable because the Delajoud system requires mass flow controller removal.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that the pending claims in the application are allowable. Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of these claims. If any fees or extensions of time are required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1482.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 15, 2003